

# Cross Systems Collaboration to Support School Culture and Behavioral Health

RI Department of Education

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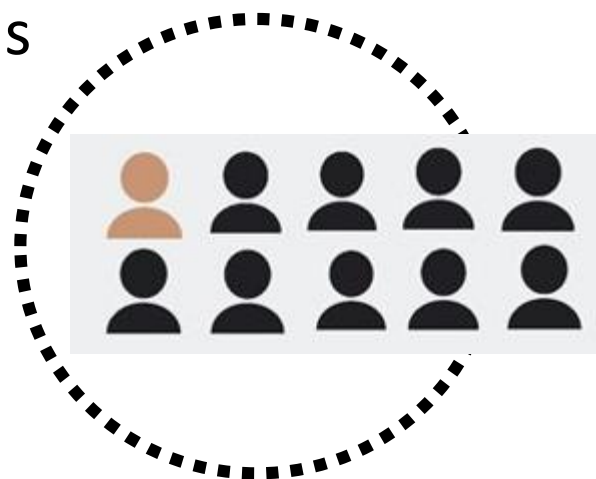
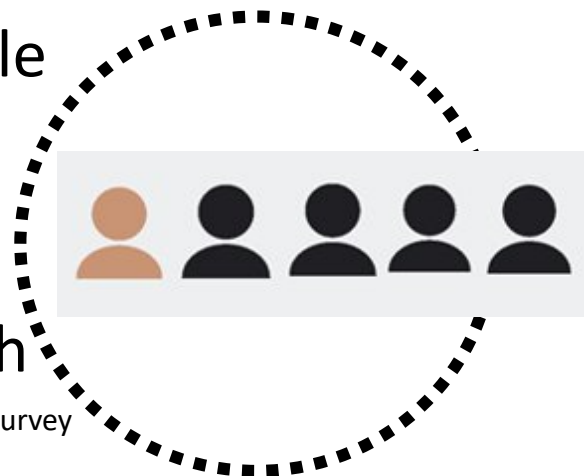
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# The Data

- One in five children have a diagnosable mental health concern.
- 100% of school and district leaders struggle to meet the behavioral health needs of children and families. (RIDE/RIASP survey to school leaders)
- Children and youth with BH conditions are at increased risk for suicide.
- 2019 RI Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS): 14.7% of Rhode Island high school students reported attempting suicide.



# The Data

- In 2017, 1,168 children under age 19 enrolled in Medicaid were hospitalized due to a mental health related condition.
- 2,401 children had a mental health related emergency department visit. 91% not hospitalized.



- Coupled with the opioid crisis the data underscore the critical need to build capacity for MH services at the school and community level.

**Schools can't do it alone!**



# Current Opportunities

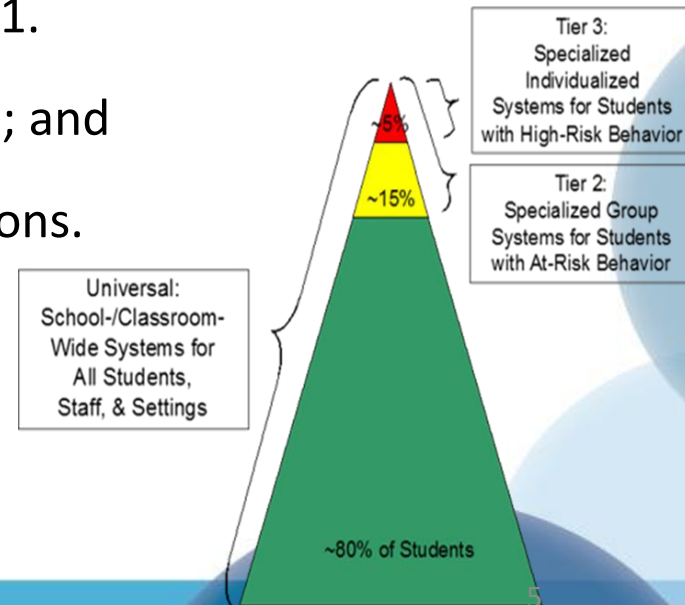
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Project AWARE (\$9M).
- School Climate Transformation (\$2.5M).
- CoIIN Project (Free National Assistance).
- Use a MTSS framework to influence statewide educational re-design and re-engineering of the system of care for children.



# Multi-tiered Systems of Support

- A multi-tiered system of supports, or MTSS
  - Framework for school improvement.
  - All students are supported for meeting academic, behavioral, and social-emotional outcomes.
  - All students have equitable access to strong, effective core instruction using high quality curriculum and differentiated instructional practices - Tier 1.
  - Tier 2, evidence-based group interventions; and
  - Tier 3 intensive, evidence-based interventions.

Source: MTSS-RI, 2019



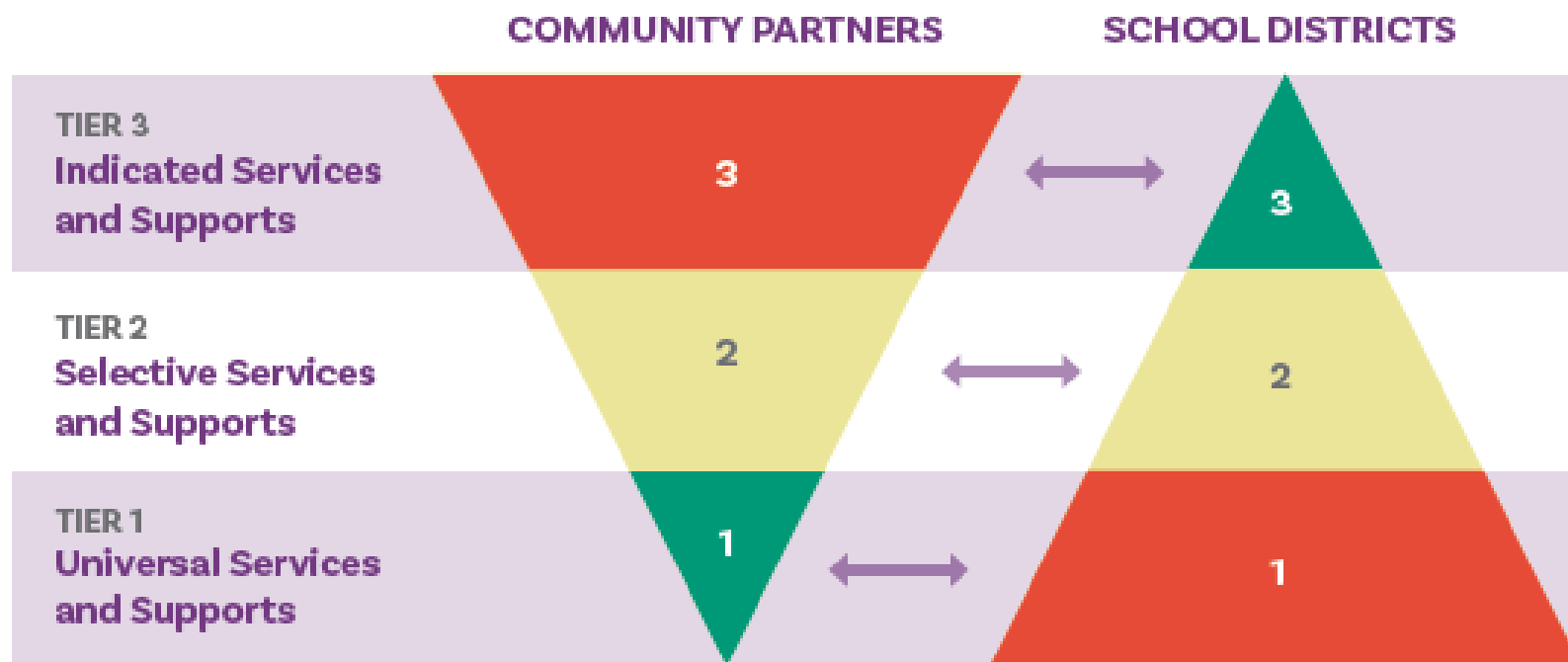
# SAMSHA Project AWARE

Overview & Districts Served

# Project AWARE

## Advancing **W**ellness **A**nd **R**esiliency in **E**ducation

- Expand the capacity of RIDE to:
  - Increase mental health literacy
  - Provide training to school personnel
  - Connect schools to needed services
- Facilitate relationships to support development of integrated systems.



Hoover, S., Lever, N., Sachdev, N., Bravo, N., Schlitt, J., Acosta Price, O., Sheriff, L. & Cashman, J. (2019). *Advancing Comprehensive School Mental Health: Guidance From the Field*. Baltimore, MD: National Center for School Mental Health. University of Maryland School of Medicine.



# Project AWARE Partners

## Local Education Agencies

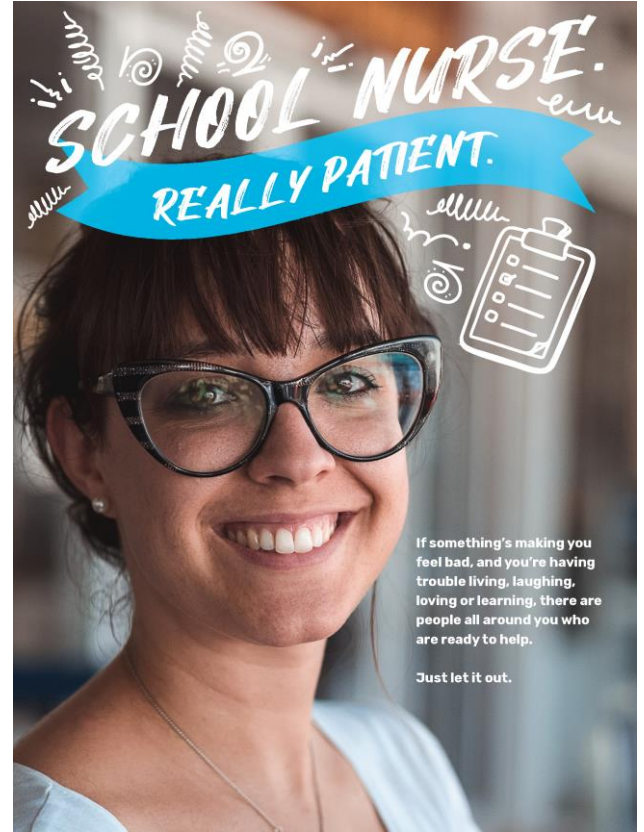
- Pawtucket School District
- Providence Public School District
- Woonsocket School District

## Community Mental Health Centers

- Bradley
- Gateway
- Providence Center

## State Agencies

- Rhode Island Department of Education
- Department of Children, Youth & Families



# RIDE School Climate Transformation Network

Increase high and equitable academic and wellbeing outcomes by developing a transformative culture through strong social emotional learning and mental health strategies.

# School Climate Transformation Network

## Nine districts & schools

Coventry: Coventry High School

East Greenwich: Archie Cole Middle School

East Providence: Martin Middle School

Exeter-West Greenwich: Metcalf Elementary School

Johnston: Johnston High School

Newport: Thompson Middle School

Warwick: Warwick Neck Elementary School

Westerly: Westerly Middle School

Providence: Paul Cuffee



# School Climate Transformation

Multi-tiered system of support framework (MTSS).

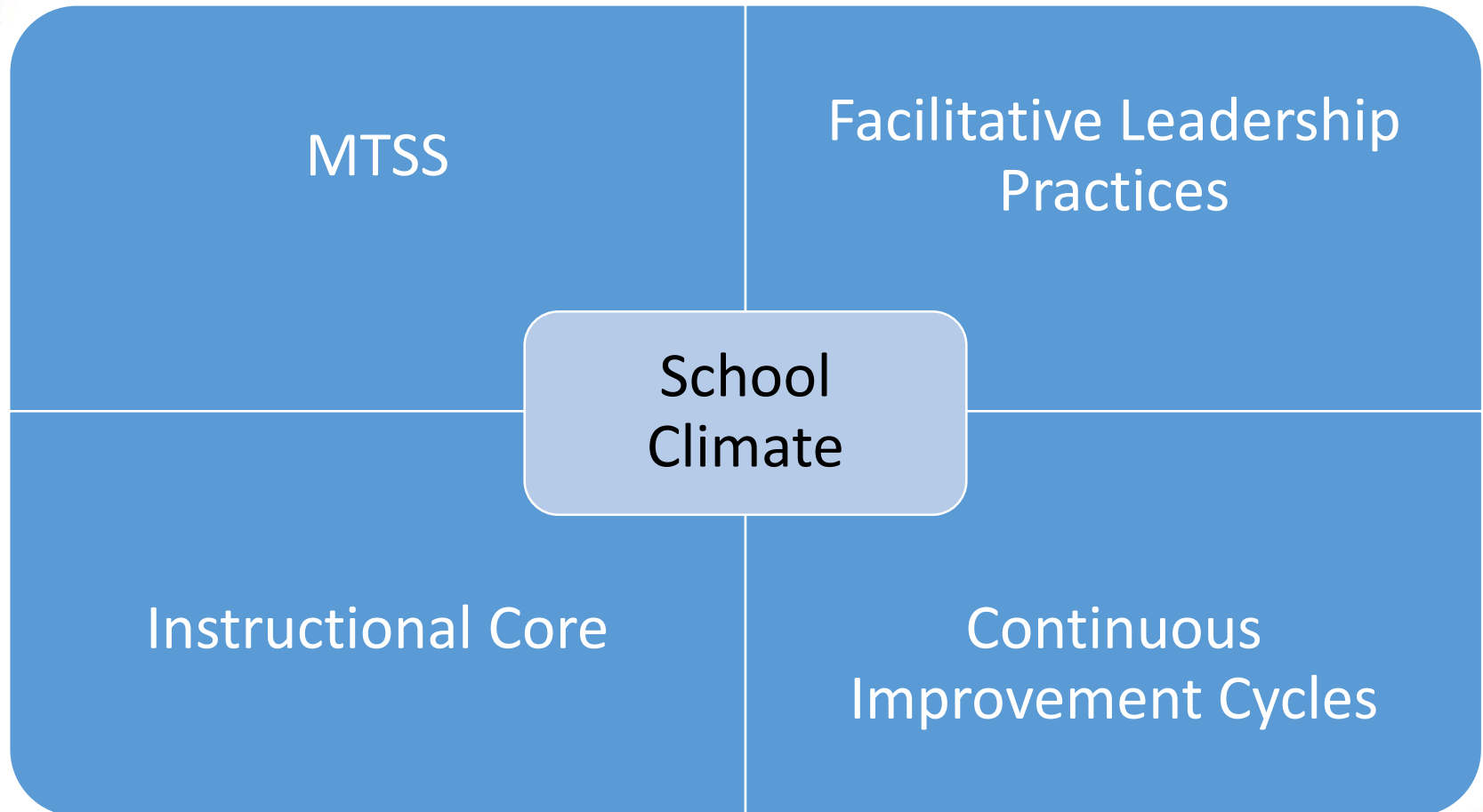
Predictable, safe, positive, and consistent environments.

Identify **academic equity** gaps and complete **root cause analysis**.

Improve the quality, accessibility, and usefulness of statewide data collection and analysis to improve school climate.



# Components of the RIDE SCT Project



# National Center for School Mental Health

Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network  
CoIIN

# Strategic Opportunity

- Support the development of comprehensive school mental health systems
  - Network Districts include: Providence, Pawtucket, Woonsocket
  - Establish Community of Practice.
- What RIDE and the schools receive:
  - Access national TA
  - Unify state agencies in a strategic collaboration to empower LEAs.
  - Improve awareness, reduce stigma and develop an infrastructure of wrap around supports for students.
  - Engage in continuous learning cycles of improvement, connect efforts and build the foundation to scale up.



# Accomplishments in Year 1



- Engaged 18 schools across 12 districts in this work.
- Established MTSS as the foundation for data driven decision making and changing adult professional practices.
- Engaged state and local partners with SAMHSA Performance Indicators
  - 7 District Policy Changes to support mental health in schools.
  - Over 1,600 faculty, staff and community partners trained in mental health literacy.
  - Nearly 20 MOUs finalized for joint work in supporting students and families.
- Informed policy recommendations for Governor Raimondo.
- Developed School Climate Transformation Network
  - Over 100 SCT participants trained in improvement and implementation science methodology.
  - 8 Learning Network & Data Support convenings and 38 individual school SCT coaching visits.
  - Collaboration with OSEP National Technical Assistance Centers.





# What's Next

- Data Driven Decisions for Next Steps
  - SHAPE Assessment
  - Evaluation Plan
  - Fidelity and School Climate Measures
- School Climate Exhibition
- Project AWARE Media Campaign
- Governor's budget includes support for mental health professional development and the hiring of additional mental health staff for schools

